

**Connecticut State Board of Accountancy
Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John H Schuyler, CPA, at 10:03 A.M. in Hearing Room J, at 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut 06103

Board Members Present:	John H. Schuyler, Chairman Marcia L. Marien <i>via phone</i> Peter J. Niedermeyer Timothy F. Egan <i>via phone</i> Mark Aronowitz Karla H. Fox, Esq. <i>via phone</i>	Certified Public Accountant Certified Public Accountant Certified Public Accountant Certified Public Accountant Public Member Public Member
Board Members Absent:	Martha S. Triplett, Esq. Dannell R. Lyne	Public Member Certified Public Accountant
Board Vacancies:	Public Member	
DCP Staff Present:	Frank Virnelli, Manager Cat Arsenault Robin Washbond Kellie Conover Ibrahim Jibrell - Intern	
Public Present:	Mark Zampino, Public Affairs Director, CT Society of CPAs Thomas Ariola, Jr.	

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103
Richard M. Hurlburt, Director: dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov for minutes and agenda items
Agency Web site: www.ct.gov/dcp
Licensing/Certification: dcp.licenseservices@ct.gov
Enforcement issues: dcp.accounting@ct.gov

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mr. Niedermeyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2018 Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Marien. All remaining board members voted in favor.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY

- Mark Zampino, CTCPA, stated that they are anticipating that there will be a sales tax proposed on tax preparation services for individuals, which CTCPA will strongly oppose. Mr. Zampino also said that they will be supporting legislation being proposed by the Department of Revenue Services that will correct the inconsistencies in the tax law that was passed last year regarding pass-through entities.
- Denise Diaz, DCP Licensing Division, reported on the recently completed license renewals and stated that 97% of licensees renewed online.

LICENSING AND APPLICATIONS

Richard J. Girasole, Reciprocal Certification & License applicant from NY, sole practitioner, with letters from clients:

Public Accounting Experience Approval – claiming over 26 years of experience- See letters from clients

Action against license in another jurisdiction - Answered yes to question 3, on SBA- 11 application on page 1 and provided letter of explanation.

Ms. Marien made a motion to approve this application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Egan. All remaining board members voted in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Regulations Update

Attorney Virnellli reported that the proposed regulations are currently with the Legislative Regulation Review Committee and is expected to be on their agenda at their meeting this month.

Continuous CPA Exam Testing

Attorney Virnelli stated that NASBA is looking for comments from state boards on proposed changes to the UAA which would allow continuous testing, and the elimination of testing windows. Attorney Virnelli said the language is constructed to clarify that this change will not go into effect until the state board and national examination systems are ready to support continuous testing. Attorney Virnelli added that if the Board is in favor, our regulations would need to be changed. Mr. Niedermeyer asked; if these changes are passed how many times could an applicant take the test? Attorney Virnelli will report back to the board.

Commissions and Contingent Fee – Proposed Legislative Changes

Attorney Virnelli asked if CTCPA had proposed legislation regarding Commissions and Contingent Fees. Mr. Zampino, CTCPA, answered that he was not aware of any but will reach out to Bonnie Stewart. Attorney Virnelli said at the last meeting it was discussed that DCP would not be submitting language on behalf of the Board, but would support it, and that the CTCPA could propose the legislation. Chairman Schuyler asserted that our statutes need to be brought in line with the UAA and that this matter should be placed on the March agenda.

Chairman Schuyler – Audits of Nonprofits

Chairman Schuyler stated that the current language on the DCP website regarding audits of nonprofits is a source of confusion for a number of CPAs. Chairman Schuyler asked if DCP had updated the language. Attorney Arsenault said the language which is found under the “Frequently Asked Questions from Charitable Organizations and Paid Solicitors” has been revised internally, and that the IT Department will update the website. Attorney Arsenault will provide a copy of the updated language to the board for their review.

Chairman Schuyler – DAS Request for Guidance Regarding a Request for Proposal that Requires a CPA.

DAS asked DCP for guidance regarding a request for proposal that requires a CPA. DAS wanted to know if a CPA licensed in New York would qualify to do the required work. Attorneys Arsenault and Virnelli determined that an out of state CPA could do the work under the reciprocity statute. They questioned whether the CPA would also have to do the work through a CPA firm with a Connecticut permit. They had reached out to Chairman Schuyler. He had formulated an answer, but suggested that the matter be brought up at the Board meeting for input from the other members. Mr. Niedermeyer recused himself and stepped out of the room. Chairman Schuyler led the discussion. It was determined that because the work included an opinion by the CPA that required a conclusion of the auditor, then the CPA must act through a firm with a Connecticut permit.

Ms. Fox made a motion to add two Settlement Agreements and a CPE Extension Request to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Marien. All remaining board members voted in favor.

CPE/EXAM EXTENSION REQUESTS

Continuing Professional Education:

Donarell Elder – Requesting waiver of CPE requirements for good cause

Ms. Marien made a motion to **deny** this request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Aronowitz. All remaining board members voted in favor.

Peter Fogarty – Requesting waiver of CPE requirements until September 30, 2018 for good cause

Mr. Niedermeyer made a motion to **deny** this request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fox. All remaining board members voted in favor.

Madeline Bergeron – Requesting waiver of CPE requirements for medical reasons

Ms. Marien made a motion to **deny** this request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fox. All remaining board members voted in favor.

Examination:

Christian Wallace – Requesting extension to May 31, 2019

Ms. Marien made a motion **approve** this request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fox. All remaining board members voted in favor.

Reinstatement Request

Thomas Ariola (CPAL.7046) Reinstatement Request

Ms. Fox made a motion to **approve** Mr. Ariola's request for reinstatement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Niedermeyer.

Chairman Schuyler, Ms. Fox, Mr. Niedermeyer, and Mr. Aronowitz all voted in favor. Ms. Marien opposed. Mr. Egan was not present for the vote.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS

Case 2019-1

Mr. Niedermeyer made a motion to **accept** the settlement agreement as presented by DCP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Aronowitz. All remaining board members voted in favor.

Case 2018-12

Mr. Niedermeyer made a motion to **accept** the settlement agreement as presented by DCP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Aronowitz. All remaining board members voted in favor.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY

- Mr. Zampino, CTCPA, commented that the CTCPA approved its participation in a coalition that is being formed to propose legislation to raise the audit thresholds for nonprofits from the current \$500,000 to as much as \$1,000,000 to keep current with costs, etc. The legislation has not yet been proposed, but the Society has endorsed its participation in the coalition to pursue that legislation.
- Attorney Virnelli introduced DCP intern, Ibrahim Jibrell to the Board. Ibrahim is an Accounting major at Eastern University and is assigned to the DCP Legal Division currently working on the peer review audit.

ADJOURN

Mr. Niedermeyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 A.M. The motion was seconded by Mr. Aronowitz. All remaining board members voted in favor.

Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at 10:00 A.M., in Hearing Room J, 450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford.